

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 10/674,808

Q77778

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are all the claims currently pending in this Application.

Allowed Claims

Claims 9-16 are allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 2, 8, 19, 24, and 25 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten into independent form, including the limitations of the claims from which they depend. Applicant respectfully requests that the amending of these claims be held in abeyance at this time.

Claims Rejections — §112

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Examiner indicates that the limitation “test pattern generated in step (b)”, in line 6, has no antecedent basis.

With this Amendment, Applicant amends claim 3, as shown to correct this informality.

Applicant also amends claim 1 to correct another minor informality.

Applicant respectfully requests that the §112 rejection of claim 3 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claim Rejections — §102 and §103

Claims 1, 3, 7, 17, 18 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Otsuki '519 (U.S. Patent No. 6,267,519). Claims 4, 21 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Otsuki '519, in view of Olsen (U.S. Patent No. 6,454,381) and Otsuki '101 (U.S. Patent No. 6,746,101).

With this Amendment, Applicant amends independent claims 1, 17, and 18, as shown.

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Claim 1 recites: "the printing apparatus being capable of selectably mounting thereon a first ink set ~~and~~or a second ink set that have mutually different combinations of inks" (see also claims 17 and 18). This feature is supported in the originally-filed specification at least at paragraphs 0070 to 0075, Figure 12, paragraphs 0099 to 0102, and Figures 18(a) and 18(b).

None of Otsuki '519, Otsuki '101, and Olsen teach or suggest this feature of the present invention. Otsuki '519 clearly describes that its printer mounts only one ink set including black ink and colored inks (col. 6, ln. 1 to col. 7, ln. 2). Therefore, Otsuki '519 does not teach or suggest any ability to selectably mount a first ink set or a second ink set, where the first and second ink sets have different combinations of inks, as claimed. Likewise, Otsuki '101 and Olsen fail to teach or suggest this limitation.

Claims 21 and 22 each recite: "wherein the first ink set is contained in a first ink cartridge and the second ink set is contained in a second ink cartridge." Similar to the issue discussed above, Applicant submits that none of the cited references teaches or suggest this limitation. Otsuki '519 describes a monochromatic print mode and a color print mode, but fails to teach or suggest a first ink cartridge with the ink for the first mode and a second ink cartridge with the ink for the second mode, as claimed. Regarding this limitation, the Examiner refers to col. 4, lns. 63-65 of Olsen. This portion of Olsen describes a first cartridge with one color ink and a second cartridge with three colors of ink. However, Olsen clearly describes that the four-color printing is accomplished using both ink cartridges and also fails to teach or suggest that the ink cartridges are interchangeable.

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Therefore, in view of at least the above, Applicant respectfully requests that claims 1, 3-7, 17, 18, and 20-23 are patentable over any reasonable combination of the cited references and respectfully requests that the rejections of these claims be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 7, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Sir:

I hereby certify that the above identified correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner Shelby Lee FIDLER at the Patent and Trademark Office on **March 7, 2006 at 571-273-8300 (Central Fax Number)**.

Respectfully submitted,


Laura Moskowitz